STATE OF NEVADA

NEVADA COUNCIL FOR THE PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday, November 2, 2011, at 10:00 a.m.

Office of the Attorney General 100 North Carson Street Mock Court Room Carson City, Nevada 89701

With Public Access Via Videoconference Located At:

Grant Sawyer Building 555 East Washington Street Room #4500 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

Committee Members Present

Catherine Cortez Masto, Staci Alonso, Deborah Armstrong, Christine Jones Brady, Valerie Cooney, Traci Dory, Michael Freda, Christina Hernandez, Eileen Herrington, Mark Jackson, Brett Kandt, Patricia Lynch, Larry Mosley, Suzanne Ramos, Wendy Ronovech, Mike Sprinkle, Andrea Sundberg, Elynne Wernikove-Greene

Committee Members Absent

Lubna Ahmad, Barbara Aupperle, Kathleen Bergquist, Toni Downen, Anya Arechiga Gonzalez, Robert Lundquist, Sue Meuschke, Dallas Smales, Robin Sweet, Bob Zentz

Public Present

Paul Bancroft, Tahoe Safe Alliance Katherine Loudon, WCSD Counseling

Attorney General's Office Staff Present

Edie Cartwright, Special Projects Coordinator
Liz Greb, Grants and Project Analyst
Kareen Prentice, Domestic Violence Ombudsman
Henna Rasul, Senior Deputy Attorney General, Legal Counsel to NCPDV
Lorraine Webber, Assistant to the NCPDV

1. *Call to order, roll call of members, and establish quorum.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. A roll call was taken and quorum was established.

2. Swearing in of Council Members.

General Masto swore in those members of the Council in attendance who were not sworn in at the August 11, 2011 meeting.

3. Introduction of members of the public and public comment.

There was no public comment at this time.

4. *Review, amend, and approve minutes from the August 11, 2011 Council meeting.

Brett Kandt made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Mike Sprinkle seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

5. *Update, discussion and possible action on presentation by Paul Bancroft, Client Services and Prevention Program Director for Tahoe Safe Alliance, regarding bullying and teen dating violence outreach.

Mr. Bancroft stated that Tahoe Safe Alliance, formerly known as Tahoe Women's Services, has 3 ½ offices located in Kings Beach, Incline Village, Truckee, and Tahoe City and serves five counties in California and Nevada. Assistance is offered by providing victim and legal advocates; programs for children who are the victims of, or witnesses to, abuse; therapy referrals; transitional housing; a 24-hour crisis line; and prevention programs.

A major component of the prevention program is presentations. These age-appropriate presentations are given in the schools from preschool through college. Mr. Bancroft gave an overview of the types of education provided to children and their parents and reported that they have had a lot of positive feedback regarding the presentations. He stated that they are in the process of developing an intimate partners/teen dating violence policy for use by the school districts.

Mr. Sprinkle asked who at the schools Tahoe Safe Alliance approaches to get their training into the classroom. Mr. Bancroft stated that they present the opportunity for the training at school board meetings. They cite the numbers of students they reached during the past year and ask the schools to recommit to the presentations for the upcoming year. If a specific curriculum is requested, they will work to customize their trainings to specific subjects, but generally their regular curriculum is accepted.

Mr. Sprinkle asked if Tahoe Safe Alliance had presented to the Washoe County School Board. Mr. Bancroft said that in Washoe County, they had mostly dealt with the principals of the schools. There is a coordinator for the intervention programs and she schedules the presentations when there is a request by a principal, teacher or counselor. Unfortunately, due to limited staff, Tahoe Safe Alliance has to turn down some requests.

Ms. Brady asked if the staff of Tahoe Safe Alliance did any legislative advocacy. Mr. Bancroft answered that they had discussed it but it was not possible at this time due to the size and work load of the staff.

In response to a question from General Masto, Mr. Bancroft stated that anyone interested in arranging a presentation or a training of trainers should contact him.

Ms. Herrington asked what percentage of the population Tahoe Safe Alliance served. Mr. Bancroft stated it was hard to say since the geographic area is large and many in the area are only there seasonally. He added that Truckee High School is probably the biggest group with 600-800 students. They have been able to develop relationships with students whom they have been presenting to since kindergarten.

General Masto thanked Mr. Bancroft for attending and for his presentation.

- 6. *Update, discussion and possible action on presentation by Dr. Reeta Thurkal, Founder President of Global Charity Foundation.
 - Dr. Thurkal was unable to attend the meeting.
- 7. *Report, discussion, and possible action on reports/updates from the following Committees of the Council:
 - a. <u>Criminal Justice Committee</u> (Brett Kandt).
 - i. 2011 Goals Update

Mr. Kandt reported that the Committee had worked to produce the multidisciplinary training video, *Perspectives on Domestic Violence*. A curricula for prosecutors has been developed and was presented at the Prosecutors Conference in September. Mr. Kandt has been in contact with some people who do training for judges and law enforcement to encourage use of the video as a tool in their trainings.

A subcommittee chaired by Elynne Greene was formed to develop victim advocate best practices. The subcommittee will utilize some technical assistance which is available nationally. Ms. Greene stated that the project is currently on hold until one of the Committee members returns from vacation at the end of the month. She is working contacting some potential subcommittee members outside of the Council, including Lori Fralick, to see if they would be interested in joining the subcommittee.

Mr. Kandt stated that the subcommittee may use workshops to help develop the best practices. Eventually they will be reviewed by the Criminal Justice Committee and brought to the entire Council for review.

On October 11th, on behalf of the Prosecution Advisory Council, Mr. Kandt co-sponsored a seminar on domestic violence strangulation at the training provided by the Southern Nevada Domestic Violence Task Force. He added that these one day seminars have been successful and are effective and efficient trainings. He hopes to sponsor more of them in the future.

Mr. Kandt asked if someone from the Nevada Coalition Against Sexual Violence would provide details for the Sexual Violence Conference scheduled for next year. Ms. Hernandez stated that the conference would take place at the end of March to kick-off Sexual Assault Awareness month and that it will focus on the intersection of sexual assault and other social issues including domestic violence and human trafficking.

Judge Lynch stated that she had seen a lot of felony strangulation cases where the Washoe County District Attorneys Office has knocked the charge down to a misdemeanor. She asked if personnel from the DA's office had attended the strangulation trainings. Mr. Kandt replied that there had been four trainings in Reno, Winnemucca, Henderson and Las Vegas. The training in Reno, which was held just before the law was enacted, was well attended by the DA's office.

Council members discussed felony strangulation domestic violence cases and where they had been and had not been successful. In general, the Council agreed that more training was needed and Mr. Kandt stated that there would continue to be more one-day trainings.

General Masto commented that POST would soon be changing their curriculum in regards to domestic violence. She would like to see the strangulation information rolled into that training so that officers are well trained in it. She will soon be meeting with POST to discuss what changes they are planning to implement.

Judge Lynch asked about training for judges. Mr. Kandt responded that he had attended both the general and limited jurisdiction judges' conferences with General Masto and Ms. Prentice to address the issue. The next step will be to get the domestic violence training into the conferences. Judge Lynch stated that although she was no longer a part of the judges' education committee, she would make that recommendation.

Ms. Prentice has been in contact with David Gordon, AOC training coordinator, and has helped facilitate a webinar training on strangulation by Casey Gwinn and Gael Strack, to be held in February, 2012.

b. Education Committee (Valerie Cooney/Sue Meu, schke).

i. 2011 Goals Update

Ms. Cooney reported that the Committee is still working on the hospital survey. They have had a difficult time getting responses from the hospitals. The Committee has also attempted to contact the Nursing Board, however that project has not really progressed yet.

Ms. Prentice participated in a meeting with the EMS board in July and they are working on getting domestic violence information to first responders.

The Cut-it-Out program is underway and being monitored.

The Committee has recently begun to reach out to the human resources departments at casinos to identify issues surrounding personnel and security.

ii. Update on Boy Scout "Peace Begins at Home" project

Ms. Cooney asked Wendy Ronovech to update the Council on the Boy Scout Patch program in the south. Ms. Ronovech reported that she had made contact with Charmaine Preator-Hillstead who will be attending the next Boy Scout Patch subcommittee meeting. She will attend the round table meetings to assist in promoting the patch as well.

UnitedHealthcare participated in a fundraiser for Safe Nest. As part of the fundraiser, a lapel pin with the design of the Boy Scouts' "Peace Begins at Home" patch was made and sold for \$5.00 each. Ms. Ronovech provided pins for each Council Member.

Ms. Ronovech also reported that with the help of Sue Meuschke and Judy Henderson from the NNADV, they were able to provide training for about 80 UnitedHealthcare providers. The training was very successful.

She added that with the aid of Lt. Robert Lundquist from LVMPD, they also held a successful elder abuse intervention in-service training as well doing some outreach to seniors in the community.

Ms. Cooney stated that the Education Committee's goals would carry over into the new year.

Dr. Freda said that at one time there had been talk of approaching the Boards of Examiners for various mental health professionals. He asked if that had happened yet. Ms. Cooney said that it had not. Dr. Freda stated that Domestic Violence training was required every few years to maintain his licenses. There is definitely a need for more training for mental health professionals. Revictimization of victims can be a problem and is due to lack of training. Ms. Cooney suggested that one of the things that might be looked at for the next legislative session is detailing training requirements similar to what California and other states are doing. General Masto asked Ms. Cooney to send her any model statutes she has found. General Masto will then talk to Chief Deputy Attorney General Keith Marcher about reaching out to the licensing boards to find out if training is best mandated by regulations or by statute.

c. Legislative Committee (Mike Sprinkle).

i. 2011 Goals Update

Mr. Sprinkle reported that the Legislative Committee had not met since the legislative session ended and so there was nothing new to report. However, he added that he was resigning as chair of the Legislative Committee but planned to stay on as a regular member.

d. Nominating Committee (Suzanne Ramos).

i. 2011 Goals Update

Ms. Ramos stated that the Nominating Committee did not recruit this year because there were no vacancies at the time. Currently there are two vacancies on the Council.

The Nominating committee is scheduled to meet January 11, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. and will be discussing Council member attendance and participation, goals for the new year, and recruitment of future members.

The Committee is discussing the possibility of traveling to Battle Mountain for the rural meeting next year and is open to input as to where to have the town hall meeting. Ms. Cooney recommended going to Lovelock. Mr. Kandt suggested Yerington and noted that Lyon County has the highest unemployment rate.

Ms. Ramos reviewed the member handouts she provided and stated that there are two members whose terms of appointment end in December, 2011 and two more in December of 2012. Recommitment letters will be sent out.

e. Public Information Committee (Traci Dory).

i. 2011 Goals Update

Ms. Dory reported that the Public Information Committee has been meeting regularly and is working on reaching out to the media. Ms. Ramos and Ms. Arechiga have worked on a series of stories which have aired on Univision in Northern Nevada. Ms. Arechiga is moving to Las Vegas and plans to continue working with Univision to air stories throughout the state. The Committee is working on reaching out to the other local stations as well.

The Committee continues to monitor the website to make sure the resources posted there are up-to-date.

f. <u>Underserved Populations Committee (Suzanne Ramos)</u>.

i. 2011 Goals Update

Ms. Ramos reported that the Committee is still working on the family court survey and paring down the questions so that judges are more apt to to complete the survey.

The Committee is working on determining the best way to provide domestic violence information to the Asian Pacific, African American, LGBT, Hispanic, and the Native American communities.

Another ongoing goal of the Committee is to arrange speakers on underserved issues for the Council meetings.

General Masto commented that she has set up a meeting with Dr. Fowler to discuss outreach to the African American faith based community and has similar plans to reach out to the Latino faith based community. She invited interested Council members to attend the meeting with Dr. Fowler. Mr. Mosley suggested contacting Bishop Clinton House, as well, who has 6000 members in his congregation. Another resource is the Deltas, an organization of African American women who would be willing to work on the issue.

g. <u>Judicial Training Committee</u> (Michael Freda).

- i. 2011 Goals Update.
- ii. Discussion and possible action of future projects or possible disbandment of Committee.

Dr. Freda stated that the original purpose of the Committee was to develop a list of potential training topics for the judges. The list was completed and presented to the judges with the hope that some of the ideas will be addressed during training at the judges' conferences. Now that the goal is completed, the question is what new project should the Committee address next, or should the Committee now be disbanded?

Ms. Cooney stated that the Committee had also reviewed at the Bench Book for limited jurisdiction judges. The Committee made recommendations to Robin Sweet to take back to the AOC's Bench Book Committee. Mr. Jackson noted that the very first sentence of the chapter covering domestic violence characterized the crime as a misdemeanor offense. His suggestions for other changes were primarily regarding the citations. Mr. Jackson expressed how thankful the Committee was to the AOC for listening to their suggestions.

Judge Lynch stated that she planned to review the Bench Book and would also make recommendations if she found incorrect information.

8. Report from the Domestic Violence Ombudsman (Kareen Prentice).

Mr. Prentice reported on her recent activities. Through various agencies, 1272 purple ribbon pins had been distributed for Domestic Violence

Awareness Month. She and the Attorney General also visited and toured Safe Embrace, Tahoe Safe Alliance, Safe House and Safe Nest.

SB66, which created the Attorney General's Domestic Violence Fatality Review Statewide Team (AG-DVFRST), went into effect October 1st. General Masto has appointed the members of the AG-DVFRST and their first meeting is scheduled for January 12, 2012. The Attorney General's Office has contracted with UNLV's Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy to assist with policy and protocols. Clark County will be forming a domestic violence fatality review team as well. Ms. Prentice asked that if anyone is interested in participating on that team, to please let her know.

The court assessment spreadsheet was reviewed and Ms. Prentice reported that she and Suzanne Ramos planned to meet with Matt Fisk from the Reno Justice Court regarding collection of the assessments. She commented that Judge Saragossa in the Las Vegas Justice Court has been very helpful in ensuring that the fees in her Court are being properly collected and posted.

Ms. Prentice also updated the Council on the VINE program.

9. Report from the Southern Nevada Domestic Violence Task Force (Elynne Greene).

Ms. Greene provided a written report (attached) and noted that the last sentence of the first paragraph should read, "164 attendees received domestic violence strangulation training."

10. Report from the Washoe County Domestic Violence Task Force

Dr. Freda stated that he has resigned as Chair of the Task Force due to time constraints. Kelli Viloria has been elected as the new Chair and has directed the focus of the Task Force towards outreach and public awareness. Last spring, the Task Force's Fatality Review Committee went through training on how to do fatality reviews and has done several cases since then. They are putting together a report on their findings.

Judge Lynch noted that the new Chair, Kelli Viloria, is a seasoned prosecutor.

11. Report from the Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence (Sue Meuschke).

Ms. Meuschke was unable to attend the meeting but submitted a written report (attached).

12. Report from the Nevada Coalition Against Sexual Violence (Andrea Sundberg).

Ms. Sundberg reported there has been a recommendation to the FBI to change the UCR definition of forcible rape. Currently the definition is "carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will." This definition leaves out a lot of cases involving sexual violence. Changes to the UCR definition are being considered by the FBI.

The Coalition has been working with App-Order to develop a free phone app so that friends and family can know where a person is located to help keep them safe.

Ms. Sundberg discussed the Coalitions funding issues and stated that they would need to redo the scope of work for all of their programs in order to ensure CDC funding for the next year. The Coalition is also looking for alternative funding sources.

13. Report from the Attorney General's Office on Violence Against Women STOP Grant and update on Grants Unit activities (Liz Greb).

Ms. Greb provided a diagram which mapped out where and how grant funds are being utilized. She briefly discussed each of the grant programs and services that are provided. Ms. Greb provided anecdotal stories illustrating the need for funding to support domestic violence and sexual assault services and training throughout the state.

Larry Mosley volunteered to help with fundraising where necessary. The Council discussed ways in which the poor economy affects women who are trying to get out of abusive relationships. The lack of jobs and the lack of funds for job training have led to a situation where some women feel that their only option is to go back to the abusive relationship. Ms. Brady added that difficulty accessing mental health services and medications compounds the problem and makes it more difficult for some women to find and keep a job. Economic stresses and vandalism to property by perpetrators may also affect the rental history of some victims making it difficult to find another place to rent. Mr. Bancroft added that his agency has seen an increase in the number of women who are homeless due to mental health issues.

The Council also discussed the need for legal assistance for victims. Judge Lynch noted that Nevada Legal Services and Washoe Legal Services are good resources. Ms. Cooney commented that her agency, Volunteer Attorneys for Rural Nevadans, is only able to help 20%-25% of applicants.

14. Report from the Committee on Domestic Violence (Jennifer Kandt).

Ms. Kandt did not attend the meeting but provided a written report (attached).

15. Comments from the Chair.

General Masto commented that the Advisory Commission on the Administration of Justice will be setting its next meeting in a couple of months. As Chair of the Victims of Crime subcommittee, she would like to focus on the issue of human trafficking—to identify it throughout the state, and find possible gaps in services and funding. The problem can then be addressed through legislation, law enforcement, and by support for those working on the issue. She asked the Council members to let her know if any of them are interested in participating on the Victims of Crime subcommittee.

Ms. Dory commented that restitution is a big issue for victims of crime. She has received a lot of phone calls from victims who want their restitution. If the person is in prison, there is only so much her office can do. Once the person is released from prison or discharged from parole, no one is following up with them and restitution is not being paid. The victim then has to file a civil case and can run into problems because the statute of limitations may have run out.

Ms. Greene announced that the Southern Nevada Human Trafficking Task Force will be meeting at Metro on December 8th at 1:00 p.m. and will be focusing on outreach for Human Trafficking Awareness month in January.

16. *Report, discussion, and action on reports/updates from the following Council Officers:

a. Vice Chair - Mike Sprinkle

Mike Sprinkle had nothing to report.

b. <u>Treasurer</u> - Suzanne Ramos

Ms. Ramos reviewed the Council's finances and reported that the NCPDV currently has \$407.32 for the rest of the fiscal year, some of which will be used to pay for travel for today's meeting. Ms. Prentice will be seeking additional funds to pay for Council expenses for the rest of the year.

c. <u>Secretary</u> - Brett Kandt

There was no report from Mr. Kandt.

17. *Discussion and scheduling of future meetings and agenda items.

Ms. Prentice asked if there were any particular months in which the Council wanted to meet. Ms. Cooney suggested meeting four times, instead of three because the Council has a lot of work to do. Ms. Prentice will send out some possible dates to the Council members for future meetings.

18. Public Comment.

There was no public comment.

19. *Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.



CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO
Attorney General

STATE OF NEVADA COMMITTEE ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

TIM HAMILTON
Committee Chair

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Report for the State of Nevada Domestic Violence Prevention Council Meeting November 2, 2011

The Committee on Domestic Violence met August 26th, 2011 and discussed issues related to complaints that treatment programs were possibly declining to treat hearing impaired clients. The Committee subsequently decided to send notice to all certified agencies that the Committee would forward all potential violations of the Americans with Disabilities Act to the United States Department of Justice.

At the August meeting, the Committee also discussed issues surrounding indigent clients and how agencies are determining whether a client is indigent. At the November 10th meeting, the Committee will be discussing the possibility of a formal definition of "indigent" and whether or not to incorporate a definition into the Committee's regulations.

The Training Subcommittee met in October and is looking at creating formal training topics that would be more specific than victim issues or perpetrator issues.

The Forms Subcommittee met several times and, with input from treatment providers, made revisions to all Committee forms.

The Rural Issues Subcommittee continues to struggle with finding solutions to having certified treatment programs in rural communities. While the Committee has discussed possibilities for changing the requirements for certification in the rural areas, the problems and barriers seem to vary greatly depending on the community. For instance, there has been a certified program in Fallon for years with qualified treatment providers which has recently closed because they have gone from an average of 20 clients per week to an average of 4 clients per week. In Pahrump, the issue has not been maintaining clients, it has been training and retaining certified staff. However, an agency has recently submitted an application for Pahrump that will also be reviewed at the November 10th meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Kandt, Administrative Coordinator

NNADV

Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence

Quarterly Report

Founded in 1980 for the purpose of helping Nevada's communities respond creatively and effectively to the needs of victims of domestic violence, the philosophy of NNADV is "to work toward the elimination of domestic and sexual violence against all persons, and the empowerment of women and children". Since its inception, NNADV has assisted in the growth and development of domestic violence programs statewide (four in 1980 to fifteen in 2011), and has close ties to all of the State's domestic violence programs.

During the third quarter of 2011 NNADV provided the following services:

- Statewide domestic violence information and referral lines. NNADV coordinates a statewide hotline in cooperation with local domestic violence hotlines. In addition we operate our own information and referral line. We also provide language line services for local programs.
 - Information & Referral Line 27 calls (July & August)
 - <u>Language Line 208 calls (July-September) Spanish, Amharic, Arabic, Tagalog, Thai, Indonesian, Tibetan & Korean.</u>
- <u>Statewide Services</u>. NNADV coordinates the collection and dissemination of statewide statistics on services provided by domestic violence programs in the State.
 - FY 2011 Domestic Violence Programs Statistical Report Summary
 - *67,728 contacts*
 - 31,496 hotline calls
 - 52,298 shelter bednights
 - 116,000 volunteer hours
- <u>Trainings</u>. NNADV coordinates a variety of training events. Over the last quarter:
 - o Regional Trainings
 - Held
 - August 24th Winnemucca Teen Dating Violence Eric Anderson, Break the Cycle
 - October 6th Incline Village Working with Men and Engaging Male Allies – Paul Kivel, Author & Activist
 - Upcoming
 - March 2012 Clark County GLBTQ Issues The Network/La Red



Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence

o Program Development Trainings

- Economic Security for Survivors September 22nd Las Vegas
- DV & Disabilities September 29th Tahoe Safe Alliance
- Elder Abuse June 30th September 29th Tahoe Safe Alliance

o Allied Professionals

- Green Dot NPHA Annual Conference
- DV 101 Rural EMS Conference
- IPV in Later Life –Aging & Disability Services Division
- Outreach. NNADV coordinates a variety of outreach activities. Over the last quarter:

Publications

- Distributed more than 23,000 brochures, cards, handbooks and posters. The list of resources are available on our website and can be ordered free of charge.
- Web Page www.nnadv.org contains program information, access to resources and other information. Last quarter 1,509 individuals accessed the site.
- Quarterly e-newsletter which provides updates on local, state and national issues and initiatives along with reporting on efforts of NNADV. Available for download on our website, or by sending us your email address we will add you to our mailing list.

Southern Nevada Domestic Violence Task Force Report.

On October 11, 2011, The Southern Nevada Domestic Violence Task Force hosted a successful training in partnership with the Nevada Prosecution Advisory Council. A special thanks to Brett Kandt for making the partnership possible. 164 attendees received domestic violence strangulation.

Earlier in the month the Task Force also hosted the Annual Domestic Violence Memorial Plaque unveiling, adding 30 names which are actually seventeen less than last year's memorial plaque. The plaques are currently in display at the LVMPD Headquarters. During the month we had six families come through for private viewings of the plaques.

In September, the Task Force had a change in the executive committee membership after the president and the vice president resigned in august due to other commitments. The executive

committee approved Annette Scott as the interim president and Elynne Greene as

Vice president. Elections will be held after the New Year and nominations are being sought for those two positions.

The Task Force is planning to sponsor to strategic Planning session with national experts from OVC and/or the National Center for Victims of Crime on developing Best Practice Models for advocates in Nevada.

For updates on events and current activities, please visit our website at www.sndvtf.org